

# Anti-rust Suit Filed by Federal League Against Organized Ball—Irish Hockey Team Wins

## FEDS BRING SUIT TO END ORGANIZED BALL

Charge Monopoly in Violation of Anti-trust Statutes and Common Law.

### HEARING SET FOR JAN. 20

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—Suits were filed by the Federal League today against the National Commission to bring an end to the monopoly of organized baseball, its rules and the national agreement under which it operates constitute a violation of the anti-trust statutes and the common law.

Hearing on the bill was set by Judge Landis for January 20 in the name of the Federal League of Professional Baseball Clubs against the "National League of Professional Baseball Clubs, American League of Professional Baseball Clubs, August Herrmann, Bancroft B. Johnson, John K. Tener et al."

The suit asks that the defendants be declared as "constituting a combination, conspiracy and monopoly violating the common law, in contravention of the anti-trust and monopoly statutes and in violation of the Sherman law, in derogation of the constitutional right of contract."

It is further asked that the defendants be enjoined from continuing to do business as a part of or in connection with said combination, conspiracy and monopoly.

After going into great detail regarding baseball as a business and explaining the residence of the respective owners of the Federal League clubs the petition, filed by the law firm of McKim, Mead & White, points out that the National Commission dominates the American and National Leagues, "but not the Federal League."

Through the petition explains the National Commission has under its domination and control all but 300, or approximately 10,000, professional baseball players of varying degrees of experience. The 300 are under contract to the Federal League.

It is explained that "at all times heretofore the supply of expert baseball players has been unequal to the demand of the various major leagues" and that such demand must be supplied by the minor leagues, the plaintiff asserts, players in the minor leagues are dominated by the National Commission by alleged "contract jumpers," which prevent the Federal League from having access to this supply of young players.

One of the principal requests is that all contracts with baseball players under the national agreement and the rules of the National Commission be declared void and of no effect so far as they concern the Federal League. The petition also asks that the Federal League be enjoined from seeking to enforce its contract with players who have signed with the Federal League.

Special exception is taken to epithets alleged to have been applied to Federal League players, which are requested to be restrained from using such "calling players under contract with the Federal League" "contract jumpers," and from characterizing the Federal League or its members as "outsiders."

The national agreement for the government of professional baseball, which was entered into between the National and American leagues and the National Association in 1903, the complaint declares, was not for the perpetuation of baseball as the national pastime, the protection of property rights without sacrifice of the spirit of competition and the promotion of the welfare of ball players, as declared in the agreement, but was for the perpetuation of professional baseball in the hands of a few men, and that those within the combination might be safeguarded against any professional competition.

The petition further asserts that the purpose of the national agreement was that it "might so dominate and control players that the engagement of their services by any other league or combination would be impossible."

The court is asked to restrain the defendants from seeking by injunction, by threats, bonuses or otherwise to prevent the players, Fischer, Knetsch, Caldwell, Peritt, Wingo, O'Connor, Bedient, Austin, Allen, Berghammer, Bender, Plank and Maquard from leaving their present contracts with the Federal League and to enter into contracts with the constituent members of the plaintiff.

The dismissal of the various court actions against the Federal League by Judge John, Harold H. Chase, Armando Marzano and Lee Magee is asked.

After listing the sources of revenue of the National Commission the bill of complaint asserts that the National Commission received \$25,000 from the National Commission from the Boston Nationals and the Philadelphia Athletics. Lajoie will succeed Eddie Collins at second for the Athletics.

Connie Mack arrived here today from Philadelphia and personally negotiated the deal. The trade was announced as an outright transfer, no other players being involved. The price was withheld. Lajoie made his debut in the Philadelphia lineup last night. His salary is \$9,000 a year.

Mitchell Outpoints Toland. Terry Mitchell outpointed Jack Toland in the main ten rounder at the Broadway Sporting Club last night.

NEW ORLEANS RACING RESULTS. First Race—Two-year-olds; purse, \$100. (Time, 1:10.5.) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 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